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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |  | Application Number     | 10/784,939        |
|  |  | Filing Date            | February 25, 2004 |
|  |  | First Named Inventor   | Kenichi Kadota    |
|  |  | Art Unit               | 2863              |
|  |  | Examiner Name          | H. Vo             |
| Sheet 1 of 1   |  | Attorney Docket Number | 3180.0354         |

| U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS |                          |  |  |  |   |
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| Examiner<br>Initials                                | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Issue or<br>Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                |  |  |                          |
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| Examiner<br>Initials     | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures<br>Appear | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |  |                          |
| VXH                      |                          | JP 2002-203882  | 7/19/02                        | Hitachi Ltd.                                       |  | Abstract                 |
| VXH                      |                          | JP 2000-110867  | 4/18/00                        | Tokico Ltd.  |  | Abstract                 |
| VXH                      |                          | JP 10-270521  | 10/9/98                        | Oki Electric Ind. Co., Ltd.                        |  | Abstract                 |
|                          |                          |   |                                |  |  |                          |
|                          |                          |   |                                |  |  |                          |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials            | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
| VXH                             |                          | TAGUCHI, "Mathematics for Quality Engineering," Japanese Standards Association (1999), pp. 131-156  | Partial translation      |
| VXH                             |                          | Notice of Grounds for Rejection, issued by the Japanese Patent Office, mailed July 5, 2005, in Japanese Application No. P2003-048090, and English-language translation thereof  |                          |
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| Examiner<br>Signature | HEN VO | Date<br>Considered | 8/30/05 |
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